THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL

A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY:

One Year, (in advance) $2.00
Six Months, " 1.00
Clubs of Ten, " 15.00
Clubs of Twenty, " 30.00
Any person sending a Club, will be entitled to a copy gratis.
The Money must in all cases accompany the order, and the name of the Post Office to which the paper is to be sent, distinctly written.
☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., should be addressed to the COMMERCIAL PUBLISHER.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VII.—NO. 8. WEEKLY EDITION. DECEMBER 25, 1869.

THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,
PUBLISHED BY
THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY,
OFFICE, 76 FIFTH AVENUE,
(OPPOSITE POST OFFICE).
C. D. BRIGHAM, - - - - - *Editor.*
R. D. THOMPSON, *Business Manager.*
TERMS OF THE DAILY:
Single Copy ..... 5 Cents.
Delivered by Carrier (per week) ..... 25 Cents.
Subscribers by Mail, (per year) ..... $10 00.
☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address
THE COMMERCIAL PITTSBURGH.

DAILY BREAD.

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

I

"And how is he?" said Robert, as he came in from his day's work, in every moment of which he had thought of his child. He spoke in a whisper to his wife, who met him in the narrow entry at the head of the stairs. And in a whisper she replied:

"He is certainly no worse," said Mary; "the doctor says, may be a shade better, at least," she said, sitting on the lower step, and holding her husband's hand, and still whispering, "at least he said that the crushing wound to his cerebellum, or something seemed to him a little more free, and that is now a question of time and medicine, you know."

"Sometimes?"

"Yes, sometimes!—and I own my heart sunk as he said so. Poor little thing, he realizes the steps, and I told the doctor so. I told him the struggle and fight to get him down the poor little throat gave him more fluid and more than anything. And he begged me not to try that again, since if there were really nothing that the child would take, and suggested every thing so kindly. But the poor little thing, such as he is, seems to rise up with unnatural strength against them all. I am not sure, though, but perhaps we may do something with the oil milk and water, for it is really a very large one, and that is the closest I ever ate, that same we were eating. But she had not thought again. She had heard no more. Then the doctor told her that the warm bed before the fire-place had been getting more and more exactly that the child should be taken to it. But a little fire arose in the kitchen. In the grocery months at the woodyard and the musician's shop, and the [illegible] with difficulty, with difficulty, with difficulty,

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1869.

1869.

We are well aware that as far, in contesting the libel suit which has been brought by the ring against the Commercial, we are only fighting the shadow. We have hopes that we will yet be able to grasp the reality. Colonel Qrey is of the smallest possible importance, personally, in the matter. It is his backers, those who for a certain end or have controlled, and whenever they have controlled have disgraced and demoralized the politics and public service of the State, that we wage war against. It is this ring that will suffer most by the issue, possibly the most agitable of their number, has fared most well. And of one thing we feel assured, that the treasury of ruleness and falsifying a platform on which they shall be inundated. For the first time in their history they have courted publicity, and the Republican masses of the State are sufficient to carry out in their demand for punishment and reformation the confirmation of all the facts that may be brought to light, and set apart them in such an emphatic manner as will rid the party of corrupt leadership, and the public service of a set of leeches, who only call themselves Republicans because that is the cognate to the State Treasury.

DESPERATE CHANCES.

When he entered the Legislature in 1865, it is a fact of common notoriety among the politicians at this end of the State, and also of a good number at Harrisburg and Philadelphia, that Colonel Qrey was far from being financially independent. Not to put too fine a point on it, he was generally considered as being in such a state of impecuniosity as to render an office for his support. He worked for three years in an official position, on an insignificant salary, leaving politics for trade, and opening his bits by the publication of a country paper, subsequently at a pecuniary loss. Yet to-now he turns up as the owner of a house and lot in Beaver worth $7,000 or $8,000, confesses he is putting up a business house on another lot valued at $25,000,—the only large building in Beaver save the Methodist Church,—and swears he is worth $30,000, "exclusive of his personal effects," which may include old books or railroad bonds, as you please. A "efforts to get information as to how this $30,000, "exclusive of personal effects" and "the only large building in Beaver save the Methodist Church," were realized, it will be noticed in reading the testimony at the hearing, signally failed. Mr. Qrey is not sound and not his Mr. Qrey tell. He was accurate, but his accurate—or we should say "the Commonwealth"—got the best of silence on the lips. Mr. Qrey was eager to subscribe himself. His counsel said "stop," and the unfortunate Mr. Qrey resigned himself to the embargo on his tongue. Now the public understand at this court of legal quietude. They will soon see the way it was declined to be Mr. Qrey to have to be a poor man when in office, and the Legislature. Dotson Waterson is not to leave to borrowed money to get to Washington with a free citizen to Congress. It was no difficulty to Mr. Qrey to have made his three thousand dollars during his legislative career prevalent to make it honestly. It is to his credit now that he is a gentleman of independent means, always provided the independence was by achieved. Now those facts being conceded, why should Mr. Qrey refuse to take advantage of a contingency he has himself created and meet the issue he has himself raised by frankly and fully stating the character, extent and source of the financial operations, and then rich. Most men are only too glad to narrate their success in life. It is something to boast of. Joe Mc Qrey is singularly reticent. He will not state how much he was worth when he went to Harrisburg in non-official capacity, he declines his donations and covers his lips when questions are put to him, which on any certain money making transactions in the past, and all that could be extracted from him was that he is worth $30,000, and is putting up a building in Beaver as large as the Methodist Church. Happy Beaver to possess a Qrey building as large as a Church. $30,000, exclusive of personal effects! But how—where—when? "Ago there's the rub."

DESPERATE EFFORTS TO AVOID A SIFT.

The proceedings in the Qrey Commercial libel suit are chiefly remarkable to the public, and especially so as to matters of the Republican party, because they indicate the constitution of the case, could the curtain be drawn completely aside, and the spectator of the political corruptionists be sorry and fully exposed. As it is we only get glimpses—detailed facts—logical conclusions and the downright refusal of the representative of the ring, when pressed upon his oath, to answer questions which go to the root of the prostitution of the politics and public service of the State to the basest purposes. The public will from these ring witnesses form this refusal to testify. The paltry device, by which the attempt is made to gloss it over, is unworthy even of notice. There is not a great society based general charges and specific facts, but when a competent witness is placed upon the stand to give specific facts, supporting the general charge made against the corruptionists, what do we get? An absolute refusal to testify. The witness is acquiescence on the subject. He screens himself behind the legal fence of incompetency against the fact he brought on the suit to eliminate his character, and how a collegeof questions, every one of which carried with it a necessary implication, with the most damning significance. The gentile has—can have but one inference.

But enough of this. There are other considerations involved in this case, to which we invite the attention of every member of the Legislature who goes in Harrisburg pledged to the cause of retrenchment and reform. It should not be if that, so far as he has the honor, all connection between the Republican party and the ring of corruptionists be severed. No merger what the cost, this must be done, or the party will sink into a minority, from which it will not recover for years. By the law of the force of the libel suit, to those so honest. He will not succeed. He will not succeed. He will not succeed

FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Views of Revenue Commissioner Wells.

The Income Revenue Business of Taxation—Mr. Wells's Ratio of the Future—Annual Product of the Nation—Exemption of Specific Expenses.

The report of Commissioner Wells, of the Internal Revenue Department, was mainly devoted to a discussion of the details and management of the system. He has also given in the report his views on the subject of taxation, and the principles on which it should be based. We give a brief outline of these opinions:

The principle that the ultimate practical measure is the welfare of the individual which is to bear the burden necessary of the revenue so as to be applied. For example, for the purpose of taxation, property is divided into two classes, real and personal. To demonstrate the injustice of the income tax he cites the case of two men, each of whom has a farm worth $10,000, and the profit of the former of these men at 6 per cent. on his capital, and that the latter has a net income of $1,000 per annum, after paying all expenses. The two men are equally rich, and yet the income tax would compel the latter to pay a tax of $30, while the former would pay nothing. The income tax is therefore unjust, and should be abolished.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on spirits, tobacco, and malt liquors, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the manufacture of these articles, which would be collected at the distillery, brewery, and tobacco factory, and would not require the employment of any additional force. He estimates that the tax on spirits would amount to $60,000,000, and that on malt liquors to $30,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the stamp duties on bank checks, drafts, and notes, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the capital of banks, bankers, and brokers, which would amount to $20,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on gas, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the profits of gas companies, which would amount to $10,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on matches, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the manufacture of matches, which would amount to $2,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on petroleum, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of petroleum, which would amount to $10,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on paper, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the manufacture of paper, which would amount to $5,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on patent medicines, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the manufacture of patent medicines, which would amount to $5,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on perfumery, cosmetics, and playing cards, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the manufacture of perfumery, cosmetics, and playing cards, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on friction matches, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the manufacture of friction matches, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on chicory, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the manufacture of chicory, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on coal, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of coal, which would amount to $10,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on iron, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of iron, which would amount to $10,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on steel, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of steel, which would amount to $5,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on copper, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of copper, which would amount to $5,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on lead, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of lead, which would amount to $2,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on zinc, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of zinc, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on tin, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of tin, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on nickel, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of nickel, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on aluminum, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of aluminum, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on platinum, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of platinum, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on gold, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of gold, which would amount to $10,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on silver, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of silver, which would amount to $5,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on quicksilver, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of quicksilver, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on bismuth, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of bismuth, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on antimony, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of antimony, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on arsenic, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of arsenic, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on cobalt, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of cobalt, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on manganese, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of manganese, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on molybdenum, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of molybdenum, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on tungsten, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of tungsten, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on uranium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of uranium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on vanadium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of vanadium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on zirconium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of zirconium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on yttrium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of yttrium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on erbium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of erbium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on terbium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of terbium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on ytterbium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of ytterbium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on scandium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of scandium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on gallium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of gallium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on germanium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of germanium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on rhodium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of rhodium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on ruthenium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of ruthenium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on osmium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of osmium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on iridium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of iridium, which would amount to $1,000,000.

Mr. Wells also recommends the abolition of the duties on palladium, and the substitution therefor of a tax on the production of pallad

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1869.

TERMS:

PITTSBURGH

COMMERCIAL.

DAILY AND WEEKLY.

1870.

IT IS A THOROUGH NEWSPAPER,

and keeps up to the times of improvement and the development of the country. Nothing worthy of note escapes its attention, either in commercial intelligence, or the various, ever-changing phases of current events; and its correspondence, discussions and editorials are characterized by fairness, candor and ability. In politics it is independent of all party ties and obligations, and free to express its own opinions and principles. Yet it is conservative, and does not indulge in the reckless and sensational style of writing which is so much in vogue with many newspapers. Its aim is to be a reliable and trustworthy family paper, and to this end all its columns are carefully guarded.

IT IS A PROGRESSIVE PAPER,

and keeps up to the times of improvement and the development of the country. Nothing worthy of note escapes its attention, either in commercial intelligence, or the various, ever-changing phases of current events; and its correspondence, discussions and editorials are characterized by fairness, candor and ability. In politics it is independent of all party ties and obligations, and free to express its own opinions and principles. Yet it is conservative, and does not indulge in the reckless and sensational style of writing which is so much in vogue with many newspapers. Its aim is to be a reliable and trustworthy family paper, and to this end all its columns are carefully guarded.

IT IS A CHRISTIAN PAPER,

and keeps up to the times of improvement and the development of the country. Nothing worthy of note escapes its attention, either in commercial intelligence, or the various, ever-changing phases of current events; and its correspondence, discussions and editorials are characterized by fairness, candor and ability. In politics it is independent of all party ties and obligations, and free to express its own opinions and principles. Yet it is conservative, and does not indulge in the reckless and sensational style of writing which is so much in vogue with many newspapers. Its aim is to be a reliable and trustworthy family paper, and to this end all its columns are carefully guarded.

IT IS A FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

TERMS OF THE COMMERCIAL,

Pittsburgh, Pa.

"THE SCIENCE OF GOOD LIVING."

Upon seems to be as far from settlement as ever. There is no reason to believe that the Republicans are gaining strength very fast, and from present indications we should anticipate a condition of things not much better than anarchy, if the people were quite left to govern themselves. To increase the embarrassments of parties and the difficulties with which the Spanish politicians have to contend, no suitable person appears willing to be King of Spain. In old times, when the Bourbons filled many of the thrones of Europe, the prospect of becoming queen of that country was anything but an agreeable one to young princesses constituted as ultimate matches for the Spanish heir apparent. Behind the position of a Spanish queen was known to be misery and death; on account of the stupid pomps and ceremonies to which she was compelled to take part, the horribly rigorous etiquette by which she was surrounded, and the restraints and formalities by which she was hemmed in, that nothing less potent than state necessity and the hope of political supremacy, would have induced a wife for the heir to so much power and grandeur.

Now it seems the crown goes a begging for somebody to take it. Victor Emanuel has all along opposed the project of placing the young Duke of Genoa on the Spanish throne, and now we learn that the Duchess of Genoa is vehemently unwilling for her son to accept the honor. Political reasons partly influence each, most likely. But we can easily believe that a mother's anxiety for her son's safety, or peace of mind, is a strong motive with the latter. "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," wrote a long ago—but to who these words, had small conception of the pains and perils which environ a royal head at the present day. The old Lord of Auchtermuchty summed up Oconomowoc merge in the sentence—"why, method he get things how that they feel a fill quiet in their mou." The demonstration of this truth was followed by many other issues of almost equal utility to kings and their subjects—and there seems some reason to look for the not distant coming of the time when all royal personages will voluntarily retire from the business of reigning, and leave the people to get on without them as well. The position is not thought desirable. It never would have been a pleasant or tolerably comfortable office for any person who felt the responsibilities.

THE PROPOSED ABOLITION OF WAR.

Few readers, we presume, by the time need of the information or suggestion to enable them to make up their minds what to think about the Mexican-Government affair. The facts of the case have been widely published, and there are no easily interpreted as to leave little or no difficulty in determining the moral character of the principal performers in the tragedy. Among reflecting people whatever hesitation or wavering of judgment there may have been, was probably the result of the ingenious comments, or schemes distilling by which certain literary persons, male and female, in New York, industriously strove to mislead the popular mind, or to misrepresent the truth. These attempts, however, have, we are happy to say, quite failed in their object, a result highly satisfactory to all who desire to believe in the sound sense and healthy conscience of the people.

Equally gratifying for the same reason is the reception given by the most complete one public instructors to certain views regarding the marriage institution in general, announced by one of these metropolitan illuminati in connection with the recent Tilton-Beecher story. Many are so deeply impressed now-a-days with the notions that most old things are over old and few new things are new enough, that innovators of every class meet with ready sympathy, and we are hardly prepared for the almost original dogma which has greeted Mr. Tilton's advocate of the "principles of free love" as the remedy required for our present

THE KING OF ITALY AND THE POPE.

Not long ago, only a month ago in fact, the King of Italy was ill, believed to be near death. It is known to all that the Italians has long been displeased with Victor Emmanuel. In 1860 the King supressed the Sicarelli law, as it was called, which abolished ecclesiastical jurisdictions. In the same year his conduct in the affair of the Bishop of Turin was not worthy of a Catholic sovereign, in the judgment of the Pope. In 1865 the bill for the suppression of convents, passed with the royal sanction, was an ingious act, Rome thought. And several other things have been done by the King, or with his consent, which appeared very wicked when looked at from a Roman Catholic point of view. Upon the whole, there is no doubt that, in the Vatican, Victor Emanuel is regarded as an exceedingly unscrupulous King, while as a private person his conduct has not been immaculate. But he has never been a free thinker, or Protestant, or anything but a Catholic in his religious views, and therefore, when he suppose himself to be dying, he desired the presence of a priest. The Archbishop of Pisa, on application, sent a priest named Rauzi, with full power to absolve His Majesty from the spiritual censure which he might have incurred. The sacrament of the Eucharist was administered to him in the presence of the princes Humbert and Carignano, and was received by the King in a decent manner. All this did not take place, however, without a good deal of conference and discussion. We have reason to regard the following as an exact outline of the relations which took place between His Majesty and the Church. It is furnished by the Florence correspondent of the *Daily News* (London):

The Weekly Commercial

Large 36 Column Newspaper,

containing the most comprehensive

FOREIGN AND HOME MARKETS,

especially designed and furnished expressly for the Weekly Commercial at the date of each issue.

IT IS EMPHATICALLY

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

TERMS REASONABLE.

THE COMMERCIAL,

Pittsburgh, Pa.

A TRIUMPH OF SCIENCE.

A few days ago a dispatch by the ocean cable announced Pio Nono, in his address at the opening of the sessions of the great Council, as asserting for the Church a power greater than that of Heaven. This claim naturally created some surprise in minds of a sceptical cast. Some may have been shocked. Some may have been reminded of the fable of SALMONEUS and of his punishment. Some may have assumed it to be one of those rhetorical paradoxes in which even religious people have been known to indulge to the enhancement of their reputation for strength of faith. Lucifer was fond of such expressions. We at first supposed it to be a mere blunder of the telegrapher, or the copyist. But we are assured that this is not the fact. And, on second thought, an explanation occurs to us which seems perfectly in accord with what we know of the wisdom of the Vatican. All are aware that "our Lord God the Pope," "God's Vicegerent," &c., are recognized titles of His Holiness. It seems, therefore, likely that the Holy Father, dissatisfied with the manner in which his decrees, bulls, encyclicals, &c., have been received by Heaven, or rather by judgment at the neglect to execute them at once, has determined to take the matter into his own hands. In anticipation of the action of the Council the Pope, in the words quoted to, lets the world know that he intends not much longer to act the part of Vicar, or subordinate, but intends to relegate Heaven into its proper position of inferiority. The effect of this step will certainly be to simplify papal administration very much, and as doubtless the personal infallibility of the supreme Pontiff will be first declared, why no opposition can reasonably be made to the plan.

A TRIUMPH OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

To take note of the progress of Reformation and Reform, and to award proper credit for distinguished services in this regard, is among the most agreeable duties we are called on to perform. No instance of the kind is more worthy of being mentioned in an especial manner than that of Register of the Treasury, a very important position, now occupied by the Hon. JAMES ALLISON. This gentleman is well known in this section of the country, and the following flattering and just comments on his administration of the duties of his office by the Washington *Chronicle* will be gratifying to his many friends.

A very sound measure of the thorough and practical character of the reforms which have been introduced into the Treasury Department by Register ALLISON is furnished by the fact that the number of clerks employed in the office has been reduced from 200 to 150, and that the latter number are doing more work than the former. Another evidence of the thoroughness of the reforms is found in the fact that the Register has been able to dispense with the services of a number of the most efficient clerks in the office.

This is in line of the oath specified by the Legislature in the law governing the Legislature.

The *World* correspondent, speaking of the Democratic endorse on Senator Fessenden last Tuesday, says: "Though it is not pleasant to witness the last moments of a Democratic member of the Senate on such an occasion, still it must be confessed that the two sons of the late Jesse, of Kentucky, had himself failed to do it written down as one by his rejection of a political trade against the party which Mr. Fessenden honored by his life, into those otherwise honorable proceedings in vindication of the dead."

The reduction of letter postage between this country and Great Britain and Ireland to six cents per half ounce, to take effect on and after January 1st, 1870, will be an important event. This is one-half the present rate, and is only one quarter that which existed for many years prior to last January. The postage must be prepaid under the new rate, as all letters not prepaid, or insufficiently paid, will be charged double postage at destination.

The Eastern papers give a great deal of prominence to the candidacy of Judge Strong, for Judd's or other's seat on the Supreme Bench, and his appointment appears probable as soon as Judge Grier's resignation is handed in. Judge Strong arrived in Washington on Tuesday evening last, and had an interview with his friend Judd.

THE FRANKING ABUSE.

The Prospect of Its Abolition—Letter from the Postmaster General—Abuses of the Privilege.

Postmaster General Creswell is in earnest in his endeavors to secure the repeal of the franking privilege. On Tuesday he sent a letter to the Postal Committees of the Senate and House, which in its strong terms of the most effective known yet dealt at the franking system.

POSTMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

WASHINGTON, D.C. December 21, 1869.

SIR: Referring to my report of last annual report on the franking privilege, I have the honor to call your attention to the subject, and to request that you will recommend the passage of a law abolishing the franking privilege. The abuses of the franking privilege have been frequently brought to the attention of the Postmaster General, and in his annual reports he has urged the abolition of the franking privilege. Each succeeding year has added to the evil. The annual report of the Postmaster General for the year ending June 30, 1869, shows that the number of pieces of mail matter sent free of postage during the year was 88,000,000, and the number of pieces sent by the public at large was 500,000,000. The franking privilege is a source of a large portion of the mail matter which is carried at the expense of the Government, and is a source of great annoyance to the Department. The franking privilege is a source of great annoyance to the Department. The franking privilege is a source of great annoyance to the Department.

JOHN A. J. CRESWELL,

Postmaster General.

The truth is, our franking privilege is an enormous anomaly—a tax upon the transmission of every letter from a poor mother to her son in a distant State, a tax on every newspaper taken by a farm hand or day laborer. Without the organizing discretion of the franking privilege the rates of postage might be very soon and very considerably reduced. The whole people pay now for the miserable squandering policy which loads down the mail cars with tons of freight sent under Congressional franks, which nobody reads and few want.

SOME OF THE ABUSES OF THE PRIVILEGE.

The New York *Sun* of Wednesday, says that "if the Postmaster General knew what mail matter was delivered under the franking privilege, he might have said that the expense of this delivery was far more than a million per annum. We are informed that one of the New Hampshire Congressmen supplies his sister with envelopes purchased by the Government, and that it was by this means that she kept through the mails, free, all summer, the rapid a private school in Boston, and that she sent circulars, which cost her brother nothing, to all parts of the country. During the canvass for Congressional honors in this district, a Democratic candidate sent out thousands of copies of his speech, which he had franked by the Democratic Congressman, and which he had printed at the office of the Democratic organ. Many of these speeches were sent to voters in other districts, and were delivered